

THE PEVERIL

THE MAGAZINE OF
THE COUNTY HIGH
SCHOOL, EASTLEIGH



DIEU DEFEND LE DROIT

VOL. II

NOVEMBER, 1942.

No. 14

EGAL PICTURE

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BOYS' WEAR

-- PORTSWOOD AND PARKVIEW

GIRLS' WEAR

PORTSWOOD SHIRLEY - PARKVIEW

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EDITORIAL.

Once again an edition of *The Peveril* appears before the admiring eyes of the grateful public. (If we do not blow our own trumpet nobody else will.) Articles on Cadets and Red Cross emphasise the fact that it is a war-time edition. We hope the next edition of *The Peveril* will appear in, peace-time. On the other hand, reports on School Sports and Speech Day appear again after a long absence.

Our plaintive cry in the editorial of the last *Peveril* apparently moved to pity the great majority of the School, for we received the desired pile of articles. We give the usual thanks to those who have contributed and the usual condolences to those whose articles, however deserving, have been omitted. The space at our disposal is limited, and though we might wish it, it is impossible to include all the articles given in.

We end by wishing everyone a happy School year, and advising them that " honest labour bears a lovely face "; the two are not entirely incompatible.

B. J. C.

TENNIS.

The tennis team has had a fairly successful season. Out of the eight matches played, four were won. The team thoroughly enjoyed all the matches played, not least those which were lost. The match against the Staff was played with a mixed team of boys and girls, an innovation which was, despite the score, quite successful. The final of the Tennis Tournament was won by Barbara Currie, who heat Joyce Campbell 6—0, 6-4.

RESULTS OF MATCHES.

<i>Opponent.</i>	<i>Result.</i>	<i>L</i>	<i>o</i>	<i>s</i>	<i>For.</i>	<i>Against.</i>
Winchester .	Won				4 ¹	58
Portsmouth	Won				43	20
Brockenhurst	Won				4 ⁶	26
Gosport	Won				73	26
Portsmouth	Won				25	20
Brockenhurst	Lost				39	4 ²
Old Bartonians	Lost				33	66
Staff	Lost				59	117

CRICKET.

The general improvement in the School cricket was maintained during 1942, four matches being won, and only one, against the Staff and Parents, lost, although the win against the Old Boys was a lucky one. In general the fielding was good, some of the batting very good, and the bowling adequate, though limited. The score of 193 against St. Mary's College is, I believe, a School record.

RESULTS.		<i>For.</i>	<i>Against.</i>
v. Gosport County School v.	Won	67	35
Eastleigh Boys' Club v. St.	Won	83	56
Mary's College	Won	193	..... 130
v. Old Bartonians	Won	72	69
v. Staff and Parents	Lost	64	96

LEADING AVERAGES, 1942.

BATTING.	<i>No. of Times</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Highest</i>		
	<i>Innings.</i>	<i>Not Out.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>Innings.</i>	<i>Average.</i>
Davis, R. K. 5.....	0	7 ⁸	27	15.6	
Phillips 5.....	0	63	39	12.6	
Foot 5.....	0	52	27	10.4	
Godley 5.....	0	4 ⁸	4 ⁰	9.6	

BOWLING.	<i>Overs.</i>	<i>Maidens.</i>	<i>Runs.</i>	<i>Wickets.</i>	<i>Average.</i>
Foot.....	16	3	44	II	4.00
Phillips	r8	2	50	/	7.14
Weeks	32	8	104	13	8.00
Godley	16	2	65	6	10.83

Weeks performed the " Hat-trick " against the Old Bartonians.

SPORTS DAY.

The Annual Sports were held this year on the 17th of June, after an interval of two years. The decision to hold the sports at Fleming Park was an outstanding success. There was a record number of entries, and many parents and friends, including several School Governors, spent a very enjoyable afternoon in ideal conditions.

Results.

	SENIOR BOYS.	
100 Yards ....	... D. Kitchen	.... 10 4 /5-secs.
440 Yards	D. Kitchen	.... 62-secs.
Hurdles	J. Iddenten	30-secs.
High Jump	E. Britten	.... 4-ft. 7-ins.
House Relay	Barton	.... 1-min. 19 4 /5-secs.
Mile	H. Potter	.... 5-mins. 19 4 /5-secs.
Cross Country	H. Potter	.... 15-mins. 47-secs.
Cross Country Team	Peel	

JUNIOR BOYS.

100 Yards ....	... J. Pidgeon	..... 12 2 /5-secs.
440 Yards	R. Bull	..... 68-secs.
Hurdles	L. Tilley	..... 21 4 /5-secs.
High Jump	W. Stewart	..... 3-ft. 10-ins.
House Relay	Peak	..... 1 min. 27 1 /5-secs.
880 Yards	R. Simmonds	..... 2-mins. 46-secs.
Cross Country	D. Burbidge	..... i8-mins. 57-secs.
Cross Country Team	Peel	

PORTAL BOYS.

80 Yards P. Phillips 11-secs.
 220 Yards P. Phillips 32-secs.
 Hurdles N. Benson 21 2 /5-secs.
 High Jump A. Pettyfer 3-ft. 4 1/2-in
 s.
 House Relay Peak 51 4 /5 -secs (new
 record)
 880 Yards K. Ast bury 2 mins. 47 1/5-secs.
 (new record)

SENIOR GIRLS.

100 YardsJ. Long 12 2 /5-secs.
 220 YardsJ Long 31-secs.
 Hurdles J. Long 21-secs. House
 Relay Peel 47 2 /5-secs.
 Ball Race J. Long.....26 4 /5-secs.

JUNIOR GIRLS.

100 YardsB. Banks 13 1 /5-secs.
 SkippingM. Veck i3-secs.
 Hurdles J. Holt 20-secs.
 House Relay Peak 51-secs. Ball
 Race J. Cheater 27-secs.

PORTAL GIRLS.

80 Yards R. Philp II 2 /5-secs.
 SkippingE. Hockey II 4 /5-secs.
 Hurdles D. Lovick 18 3 /5-secs.
 House Relay Peak..... 53 4 /5-secs.
 Ball Race A. Steer i8 I '5-secs.

GIRLS' OPEN.

Hoop Race J. Dawkins 2i-secs.
 Egg and Spoon Race M. Walters 20-secs.

BOYS' OPEN.

Cricket Ball N. Foot.....71 yards 1-ft. 9-ins.
 Slow Bicycle R. Phillips
 Sack Race H. Potter 32 2 /5-secs.

TROPHY WINNERS.

Senior Boy	H. Potter
Senior Girl	J. Long
Mile	H. Potter
Senior House	Peel
Junior House	Peel
Junior Boy	P. Phillips
Junior Girl	R. Philp.

FOOTBALL.

One School fixture has been played against Gosport C.S. This was won 4—0, all the goals coming in the last ten minutes. Scorers were Coleman (2), R. Davis and D. Davis.

HOUSE MATCH RESULTS.

Barton	3	.....	Peak	2
Barton		3	Peel	4
Peel	3	.....	Peak	2

Additional football results :-

School 6. Pirelli's o (Coleman 4, D. Davis, R. Davis).

School 9, Eastleigh A.T.C. 2 (Coleman 4, R. Davis 3, Burbidge 2).

OLD STUDENTS' NOTES.

Our first note must be melancholy. The casualty list of Old Bartonians is growing, and it is with very deep regret that we record the deaths of the following in action or on active service :P. /0. P. Shelley, R.A.F.

Sgt. G. R. Croasdell, R.A.F.

Sgt. C. Q. F. Hartley, R.A.F.

Flight-Sgt. S. W. Pook, R.A.F.

Flight-Sgt. A. N. Charlton, R.A.F.

L. /Cpl. S. W. Smith.

Flight-Sgt. D. A. Dear, A.T.C.

Sgt. M. J. Kynast on, R.A.F.

Recent visitors to school included L. Manners, now on an aircraft-carrier, and J. Jacomb, of the R.A.F. Those who have not seen the latter since his school days will be interested to know that he is 6-ft. 3-ins. tall—and slim !

L. Newman (R.A.C.), also paid us a short visit before going abroad.

Our congratulations to Phyllis Orman on her marriage ; also to Mr. and Mrs. Trent (*nee* Lee) on the birth of a daughter.

L. /Cpl. G. C. Ladd (C.M.P.), won the 220 yards in the Aldershot and District Army championships.

News is scanty, but this is not our fault. Our appeals still go unheeded !

293, Cranbury Road,
Eastleigh,

2nd November, 1942.

Dear Old Bartonians,

We should like to take this opportunity of wishing the very best of luck to all of you, whether in the Forces, in munition factories, or carrying on with your normal work.

Our activities have been somewhat reduced during the past few months, but nevertheless we have been able to hold our Annual Meeting and two sports events.

The Annual Meeting was held in March and was thoroughly enjoyed by those who were able to attend. During the afternoon hockey and netball matches against the School were played. The former resulted in a win by 4—1 for the School, who proved much too speedy for their opponents. The Old Bartonians won the netball match by 21-10. The usual football fixture did not take place as the Old Bartonians' team were playing in a League match ; their opponents were a strong Army team who won by 18-1.

Later in the afternoon tea was served in the Hall, and old friends found a chance to exchange reminiscences and news since their last meeting.

After tea, a meeting was held during which events of the previous year were discussed and suggestions for the future put forward. Then followed the election of the Committee for the coming year, the new officials being as follows : Mr. Moore, Miss Talbot, Mr. Allen, Mrs. Butcher, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Fish, Mrs. Neale, Miss Hedge, Miss Newton, Messrs. Collins, Cannon, Currell, Taylor, Lawford, Smith (W.), Waller, Cummins, Newman, Glasspool and Light. The President this year is Mrs. Butcher. The day concluded with a very enjoyable social evening with games and dancing.

During the summer, two tennis matches were played, both of which were won by the Old Students. The first of these was an O.B.A. Ladies team *versus* the School. In spite of bad weather, all the events were enjoyed, and we are grateful to the Southern Railway Tennis Club for the use of their courts. The second fixture was a mixed doubles match against the Staff. This was held at Fleming Park before quite a large audience from the School. We were unable to hold our Annual American Tournament this summer.

At this juncture we should like to remind all those Old Students, who are not members of the Association, that it is never too late to join. Miss Talbot will be only too pleased to receive your subscriptions, and in due course you will receive your own issue of *The Peveril*.

In conclusion we should like to pay tribute to Mrs. Neale (May Betteridge) for all the work she has undertaken during the past few years as our Secretary. Her efforts have been untiring, and we are sorry to learn that she would not be able to continue in this position.

Yours sincerely,

CYNTHIA COLLINS *Joint Hon. Secs.*
HARRY COLLINS *f*

EXAMINATION RESULTS.

LONDON HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.—June, 1942. The

following were successful :-

Barbara Currie, passed in Latin, English, French and History and secured London Inter. B.A. exemption.

K. C. Smith, passed in Physics, Chemistry (with Distinction), Pure and Applied Mathematics.

R. O. Weeks, passed in Physics, Geography, Pure and Applied Mathematics.

Both Smith and Weeks were exempted from London Inter. B. Sc.

P. N. Clark, passed in Geography, French and Economics.

Barbara Currie was awarded a Hants County Exhibition, and K. C. Smith a Southampton Borough Scholarship as a result of an examination held at University College, Southampton.

LONDON GENERAL SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.—June, 1942. Upper V.

(Language).

MG Bennett, John	en h gy / ft m p
G Bodey, Margaret	en el h gy f m p
G Britten, Edward	en el gy m b a
MG Brown, June	en el h gy l f m* a
G Bryan, Eileen	en el gy l f b
MG Clark, Margaret	en el gy l f* m p a
MG Clarke, Kathleen	en el gy l f* m b a
G Crosswell, Patricia	en el gy l f m b a
MG Dunning, Joyce	en el l m fit
G Hockey, Sylvia	en el l m p b a
MG Hutchings, Edward	en el h gy f (m) b a
G Jones, John	en el h gy l f p
MG Kerridge, Joyce	en* el h gy f* (m) a
G Knowles, Raymond	en gy f m p
G Mann, Olive	en* elf m b a
G Smaldon, Joan	en el gy b a
G Steer, Morris	en el gy f b a
MG Stephenson, Norman	en* el h* gy l* f* m* p a
G Stubbington, Wesley	en el h gy l f m b a
G Styles, Irene	en el l f b a
MG Taylor, Gerald	en el h gy l f m b a
G Wren, Christopher	en gy f m p b a

Upper V. (Handicraft).

MG Campbell, Joyce	en el gy f m
G Davis, Desmond	ds en m* me p
G Everist, Josephine	he en el f a ds
G Garrett, Gweneth	en el f a ds

G	Long, Joyce	<i>en el f m ds</i>
G	Mears, Amelia	<i>en el gy m a</i>
G	Moore, Peter	<i>en gy m b a hc*</i>
G	Phillips, Pamela	<i>en el f m b a ds</i>
G	Pickett, James	<i>gy m* p a hc</i>
G	Runyard, Dennis	<i>en gy m* mc p a hc*</i>

Upper V. (Modern).

G	Cavill, Brian	<i>en gy p b a</i>
M G	Cheater, Jean	<i>en* el gy f m* mc p b a</i>
G	Dyke, Raymond	<i>en gy m p a</i>
G	Foot, Norman	<i>en el gy m p a</i>
G	French, Alan I	<i>en el gy f m mc p b a</i>
G	ddenten, John	<i>en el gy p b a</i>
G	Martin, Peter	<i>en el gy b a</i>
G	Pepper, Charles	<i>en 'el gy m* mc* p a</i>
M G	Potter, Harold	<i>en el h gy f m mc p a</i>
M G	Radford, Ronald	<i>en el gy f b</i>
M G	Stallard, Lena	<i>en el f m mc p b a</i>
M G	Symes, Harold	<i>en el f m mc p b a</i>
	Tuffin, Frederick	<i>en el gy f+ .m mc p a</i>
G	Wallace, John	<i>en gy p* b a</i>
	Waters, Richard	<i>gy m mc p</i>

Key.

M Exemption from Matriculation. G
General School Certificate.

A candidate's performance is indicated by the letters opposite his or her name.

Pass = *Italic type.*

Credit = Ordinary type.

Very Good = Ordinary type and asterisk.

Italic type and dagger indicates a subject in which a candidate passed for Matriculation though not getting a credit parenthesis indicate a subject in which the candidate passed at the lower standard for Matriculation purposes.

en	English		Physics.
el	English Literature.	me	Mechanics.
h	History.		Biology.
gy	Geography.	a	Art.
l	Latin.	ds	Domestic Science.
f	French.	hc	Woodwork.
m	Elementary Mathematics.		

SPEECH DAY.

The first public Prize-giving that the School has had since 1938 was held at the Town Hall on July 22nd. The prizes were presented by Canon Spencer-Leeson, the Headmaster of Winchester College, and a large number of parents and friends were present.

The Speech Day began with a short programme given by the pupils of the School. A Latin speech was made by Barbara Currie, a French recitation of a poem by Victor Hugo was spoken by Jones, and Olive Mann gave two English recitations, a poem by Rudyard Kipling and Queen Elizabeth's speech to her troops at Tilbury before the coming of the Armada. The choir sang two songs " England, Arise " and " Non Nobis Domine."

Canon Spencer-Leeson, the Governors and the members of the Staff then took their seats on the platform, and Councillor Quilley, chairman of the Governors, called on the Headmaster to give his report. The Headmaster, after welcoming Canon Spencer-Leeson, spoke of the progress that the school had made in work and games, despite war-time difficulties, which had, however, been small compared with those of some other schools. The results of the examinations the previous year showed the way in which Staff and Pupils, disregarding air-raids, had maintained a high standard of scholarship. Forty-eight pupils took the School Certificate Examination and thirty-nine had passed. Four boys had obtained Higher School Certificate and two of them were awarded State Bursaries. The Headmaster went on to mention the progress made in practical organisation. A Cadet Corps and Red Cross Unit had been formed, the latter with the help and encouragement of the Hon. Lady Cooper, and a Junior Red Cross Detachment was about to be formed. There had been changes in the Staff, and the Headmaster thanked the Staff for its loyal co-operation. He concluded his report by urging pupils to remain at school as long as possible to obtain the qualifications necessary to fit them for good positions and for the work of reconstruction which would fall to them after the War.

Canon Spencer-Leeson then made a speech which was most interesting to parents and pupils alike. He first congratulated the school on the achievements outlined in the Headmaster's report, and on the courage and determination that had enabled it to make so much progress under such trying conditions. The way in which this, and all other schools in the country had carried on in war-time would make a great story after the war. He also advised the pupils to stay at school as long as possible to prepare for the change which would come after the war. The parents should remember, he said, that the home should play a part even greater than the school in the education of the child. The " cell of the State was the family " and the life of the family should be main-

tained. It was his conviction that all education should have its basis in religion, and that the child should learn above all to do the will of God.

When he had ended his interesting speech, Canon Spencer-Leeson presented the prizes, School Certificates to those who had gained them the year before and were still at school to receive them, and 18 Red Cross Certificates to those who had passed in the recent examination in Home Nursing.

The Mayor of Eastleigh (Councillor J. Hedges, J.P., C.C.) then proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Spencer-Leeson in a very amusing speech. The proposal was seconded by the Rev. T. B. Randolph, Vicar of Eastleigh. The proceedings ended by a vote of thanks to the Chairman and the donors of the prizes, moved by Barbara Currie, the Head Girl, and seconded by R. O. Weeks, the Head Boy.

Many of the parents and friends present then went to the School where exhibitions were held of art, biology, geography, physics and woodwork.

PRIZES.

Form II.—Vera Holloway, A. Whale, Elizabeth Bendall.

Form III.—Olive Snook, J. Ball, I. Creed.

Form IV.—D. Bonella, Marian Sword.

Form L.V.—Marjorie King, F. Coleman, Jenifer Martin.

Form U.V.—N. Stephenson, Jean Cheater, Joyce Campbell.

SPECIAL PRIZES.

Handicraft.—G. Springett, K. Bartram, G. Clapp.

French.—C. Churcher, H. Coad.

Physics.—R. O. Weeks, Marian Sword.

Geography.—N. Stephenson, A. Stephenson.

History.—Barbara Currie, D. Bonella. *Art.*—

Joyce Kerridge.

Latin.—N. Stephenson.

English.—Barbara Currie, Marjorie King. *Biology.*—

G. Taylor, Daphne Birch. *Domestic Science.*—

Pamela Phillips, Amelia Mears. *Mathematics.*—K.

C. Smith, C. H. Pepper. *Headmaster's Prize.*—P. N.

Clark.

SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

Joyce Kerridge.	J. Thompson.	Audrey Munday.
C. Wren.	Winifred Monk.	Doris Middlewick.
Josephine Collings.	Nancy Loveridge.	Joyce Shipp.

RED CROSS CERTIFICATES.

M. Bodey.	J. Smaldon.	D. Middlewick.
M. Clark.	I. Styles.	J. Shipp.
J. Everist.	K. Clarke.	L. Stewart.
M. Greenslade.	J. Dunning.	B. Wells.
A. Mears.	G. Garrett.	C. Wood.
A. Munday.	N. Loveridge.	

" INTER ARMA CARITAS."

In the March issue of *The Peveril* a short note appeared stating that a Red Cross Unit was about to be formed. Actually the date of the first lecture in Home Nursing was February 27th. Nine lectures were taken in this subject by Miss Young, Matron of the Isolation Hospital, Eastleigh, and 18 girls sat for the examination. The examiner was Sister Wood, late Sister-tutor of the Royal South Hants Hospital, and all the candidates passed. On June 19th a course in First Aid was started with Dr. Wilson as lecturer. The examination was taken on 18th September, with Dr. Golden as examiner, and again all the candidates passed out of the probationary stage and became Nursing Members with permission to wear the regulation Red Cross uniform. On 23rd September the Unit became a Detachment bearing the title Hants 512, with Mrs. Witton as Commandant and Mrs. Brown as Detachment Secretary. The Hon. Lady Cooper, Vice-President of the Hursley, Chandler's Ford and Eastleigh Division, paid a visit to the members of the Detachment on the afternoon of that date and told the members that the training given by the British Red Cross Society is of value alike to the State and to the individual, as fitting the latter to be a better citizen, whatever her occupation. She went on to say that there is at present a very strong desire among young people to make a contribution to the National War Effort, and by joining a B.R.C. Youth Detachment ample scope would be given to the girls for service to their country. Already a number of the girls are willingly giving their time to help in the Children's Hospital, Southampton ; the Hampshire Home of Recovery ; the War Nursery and the Chandler's Ford Sanatorium.

Joan Smaldon leaves us to take up her duties at St. Mary's Hospital, Portsmouth, where she will take her training to be a State Registered Nurse. We wish her the best of luck.

At the time of going to press, the Detachment has 16 members who are taking their second year Home Nursing with Sister Wood as lecturer.

I). M. B. (*Hants 512*).

ARMY CADET FORCE.

In February of this year Major H. N. R. Moore formed a School Platoon under the command of Mr. Slade, with a strength of 29 cadets. Within a month the Cadet movement had grown so rapidly in Eastleigh that Major Moore was able to form the 11th Hants Cadet Unit with six platoons. In April two more platoons were added and the unit became the 11th Hants Cadet Company. On 3rd July, Major Moore announced the formation of the 11th Hants Cadet Battalion, with A, B and C Companies, each company having three platoons, and an additional platoon at Fair Oak.

No. 5 Platoon was taken over by Lieut. R. Cockrill when Mr. Slade was called up, and later by C. /Lieut. J. G. Anderson on Lieut. Cockrill becoming Commander of B Company. Mr. S. A. Lebern became Adjutant in June, and gave much valuable assistance to Major Moore in the increasing administration of the Battalion.

Much to the regret of the members of the School Platoon, Major Moore was obliged to relinquish the command of the Battalion on the 24th August, owing to the pressure of his work in connection with Home Guard and other duties. C. /Major B. L. Shotton took over the command of the Battalion, and has continued the good work commenced by his predecessor. Mr. Lebern resigned his appointment at the end of September.

No. 5 Platoon was well represented at the Annual Inspection of the Battalion on Sunday, 28th September. The inspecting officer, Brigadier E. N. Jack, D.S.O., watched drill of the Platoon and commented that it was a very satisfactory turn-out.

No. 5 Platoon now has 25 senior cadets and 15 junior cadets. Training is progressing favourably with the assistance of a group of keen N.C.O's. The outlook for the future is hopeful.

CADETS.

" No. 5 Platoon will advance. By the right, Quick March." The Cadets are moving. To and fro across the playground they march before the gaze of many eyes. But, believe it or believe it not, this is by no means their chief activity, although it has its value.

Out in the wood three parachutists are at large and only one can escape the vigilance of the searchers. Amidst the backwoods of Chandler's Ford, the Gosport Platoon, rattled by the persistence of the attack, must acknowledge that its defence against No. 5 Platoon is of no avail.

On the outdoor range the rifle shots echo and the bullets fly. At one hundred yards the bull's eye suffers severely, even from the shooting of the younger cadets.

The maps are out. " Sections, proceed to point 924399." No. 1 Section goes by the footpath and bridge. No. 2 Section goes through thicket and stream. They reach the point, but where is No. 3 Section ? Lost, but to be found in due time.

These are some of the activities of the Cadets. Their opportunities abound ; to be disciplined, to bear responsibility and to help each other to progress. In these ways they are moving, that they may be prepared to do their duty and to serve their King and Country.

AN INTERESTING VISIT.

On the loth October, the senior boys and a few Gosport cadets were given some very interesting lectures by Lieut.-Colonel Hume, of the Indian Army, Major Douglas, of Southern Command, and a Para-troop Sergeant Instructor.

Colonel Hume spoke on the problems which faced the British in India : how every district was different, not only geographically but racially. He said that the Indian Army needed young intelligent men, who could get a cadetship in the Indian Army for the duration of the war, or even remain in it as a career. Any person who was interested could ask his headmaster to write to him for information.

Major Douglas then took the platform. He told us how important pigeons were in the war, and particularly requested us not to shoot Army carrier pigeons, which were doing such good work. He said that one of their latest jobs was the bringing of the first despatches home from Dieppe. He then turned the subject to airborne troops and introduced to us one of the first paratroops, a Sergeant Instructor, who had made 95 jumps. The sergeant, who was in full kit, demonstrated how he acted following a landing in enemy territory. He described all his equipment from the small air-tight tins of butter and cheese to his Sten gun. It must be added that the sergeant was very sarcastic about Army biscuits, which caused much amusement to the audience. At this point the Headmaster thanked Colonel Hume, Major Douglas and the Sergeant for coming along, and the audience gave them a great ovation.

We then adjourned to the field, where we were joined by the junior boys. Here we saw two first-class displays of gun drill by the gun crews of a 25-pounder and a 2-pounder anti-tank gun. Major Douglas then released some pigeons he had brought with him, each of them carrying a message, which was taken to headquarters. All then enjoyed themselves immensely inspecting both the larger guns and rifles and other automatic weapons. Many had the chance of operating the weapons, while others were given a joy-ride in a lorry designed for gun-towing. A special attraction was the Paratroop Sergeant, whose equipment was displayed and handled by many. Some disbelieved the sharpness of his knife, and the sergeant demonstrated on the tie of one of the boys with great success. The boy was greatly astonished, undoubtedly thinking he was going to lose his head. Another member of the School thought he would like to try ju-jitsu with him, but when the sergeant had flung him easily through the air, he gave it up.

The performances by all the officers and men of Southern Command were excellent, and I am certain that all, including certain members of the Staff, thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Also I am sure that everyone enjoyed missing a half-morning's school work.

J. BENNETT (VI.).

THE TRIALS OF A TRAVELLING CLASS.

You may think that a travelling class sounds very thrilling. So thought we at the beginning of the term, but as time progresses we are discovering that it has many trials and tribulations. It does not mean that we are the chosen few privileged to travel afar seeing the sights, but that we are doomed just to perambulate aimlessly round our revered academy. Just consider it for a moment. No room to call your own, no desk to call your own, no cosy corner all to yourself ! Just an empty cold laboratory.

At the termination of assembly I, with other boisterous members of my form, dash to my locker in the despised Lab., and hurriedly collect my property. Oh, the trials we endure during these few crowded minutes ! For example, as my locker is the top of a series of four, the unfortunate person below me, receives his usual baptism of books, and down I go on bended knees to recover them, heedless of the uncomplimentary comments of the injured party. Our books ready, the next question that arises is, " Where do we go ? " They say " Great minds always think alike " ; not so the great minds of II Ia.

Invariably one half go one way the others in a different direction. Even the bright spots of the day are dimmed by these nomadic people who arrive with beaming faces five minutes after the lesson has started.

After the end of each lesson, these are some of the comments that issue from the Lab. " Where's my ruler ? " " Have you got my G.P. book ? " " Has anyone seen a lost French book ? " " There, I've left my rubber in 2b room." If this goes on much longer we shall not have a ruler, a rubber or pen left in the class. It no doubt teaches us to be careful, but how we suffer for it ! To crown all, we end the day with pains in the back through sitting precariously on backless stools in the aforementioned Lab.

Oh for the days when we shall have a room to call our own, and how we shall appreciate it !

VERA M. HOLLOWAY (*lila*).

TRAINS.

I like travelling by train : for a train, even if it be only a little provincial three-coach one, has an atmosphere of excitement all its own. There are mystery and opportunity for adventure on a train which could never be the same anywhere else, and some circumstances which would lose all their thrill and glamour if they were encountered on a common-place bus or rattling tram. Once on an express which will go for many miles and through many stations before stopping, with its very wheels tapping away all the time : " Hurry yourself ; hurry yourself ; no-time-to-be-lost, no-time-to-be-lost "—even defeating the purpose of its own song by so hustling the words out that they jostle and tumble over each other in their confident eagerness and prevent their being heard by

any but the slow train's passenger, the casual station-loiterer, who will certainly not take their advice—once *there*, I say anything may happen.

But the trains on which we "regulars" travel have nothing like this breathless haste, although, I think, if we could only recognise it, they hide just as much romance under their slow, restful rhythm. It is a strangely comforting, friendly rhythm which I do not think has ever been put into words. The sophisticated mimic, the little child playing "choo-choos," the onomatopaeic journalist have never captured successfully more than the first frenzied puffs which characterise the last minute departure. Late-comers panting up to wrench open a door and jump in as the train begins to move; the guard, half-in half-out of his van; the snap of the signal on a misty winter day—all these are reflected in those first few hysterical sighs of the engine. After that, however, all imitations fail to convey the playful wheels singing their own lilting, elusive songs—a little different, I verily believe, for each train. At any rate, I can never try to set down the fascinating music of their motion but they intrude some teasing extra quaver or shy little flat or sharp or else they alter the pace, or take it into their provocative heads to meet some thundering express and make me lose their tormenting tune in the din of passing wheels quite out of harmony with our own.

Trains are exasperating things. At some times they will delay for hours, while at others (we plaintively assert) they come early, they do not stop, they positively go out of their way to get themselves missed. Nevertheless, I think we all have a soft spot in our hearts for the train which will provide, in its different moods, inspiration for a hundred song-writers and in its passengers, material for as many novelists.

MARJORIE KING (*U.V.L.*).

AUTUMN.

Whirling leaves, golden and
brown, Twisting and turning,
Hurrying down.

Driving wind, gusty and strong,
Whistling and sighing,
Rushing along.

Roaming birds, prepared for
flight, Chirping and singing,
Seeking sun-light.

The drooped rose, scattered to
earth, Dying and fading,
Awaiting new birth.

MONICA GODFREY (*111b*).

THE BLACK-OUT.

(With apologies to Tennyson.)

I come from home of warmth and light,
I make a sudden sally,
And fearless face the gloomy night
To hasten down our alley.

I clatter over stony ways,
I trip in holes and hollows;
I splash along in eddying bays,
I quake as someone follows.

I wind about and in and out
With many a footstep failing,
And here I bump a rusty spout,
And here and there a railing.

I steal by plots and grassy lawn,
I brush by privet covers,
I grope, I grasp, I sigh forlorn, I
startle happy lovers.

I flounder under moon and stars,
I trace the outlined gables,
I feel akin to star-led " tars "
And mariners in fables.

I hear the murmur of a song
And footsteps on the gravel,
I pause, I cough, they pass along,
And on again I travel.

Till last my home I reach again
With vows to leave it never,
But dawn will come, the stars will wane,
This gloom won't last for ever.

MARIAN SWORD (*L.V.m.*).

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